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Admiral to Be New CIA Head

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Johnson City, Tex. — President Johnson named Vice Admiral William F. Raborn Jr. (Ret) yesterday to succeed John McCone as director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Admiral Raborn was the naval officer in charge of the development of the Polaris missile system.

It has been known for some time that Mr. McCone had wanted to retire from his post as head of the intelligence operation.

Mr. Johnson made the announcement at his old country schoolhouse, a mile and a half from his ranch, when he signed

into law the 1.3-billion-dollar aid to education bill.

Admiral Raborn had been the President's house guest and had been with Mr. Johnson during an auto tour of the Johnson City area yesterday.

The President called reporters together and announced what he called "appointments of great importance" for the country.

Mr. Johnson announced that he was nominating Richard McGarrah Helms, now deputy director of the CIA for plans, to be deputy director. He succeeds Lt. Gen. Marshall S. Carter of the U.S. Army.

He then announced that Admiral Raborn would take over

from Mr. McCone. Mr. Johnson did not announce a date on which the change would become effective.

Admiral Raborn, who is 59 years old, was born in Decatur, Tex., but grew up in Marlow, Okla. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1928 and became a naval aviator.

During World War II he served as a commanding officer in naval aviation units and as executive officer of the aircraft carrier Hancock. In April of 1945 he was awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry.

After commanding a task force and serving in Washington naval headquarters on various assignments, he took command of the carrier Bennington. In a series of explosions that blasted the ship off Newport, R.I., on May 26, 1954, 103 men died. An official commendation credited Admiral Raborn with "saving many lives."

From 1956 until 1961 he was in charge of developing the Navy's fleet ballistic missile system which resulted in the present fleet of Polaris-armed submarines.

He received the Distinguished Service Medal for this work.

When he retired on Sept. 1, 1963 Admiral Raborn was deputy chief of naval operations for research.

Since then he has been vice president for project management for Aerojet General Corporation in southern California. He now resides at Pasadena, Calif.

Mr. Helms also was present for yesterday's announcement and had been a guest of the President. He is 52 years old and was born at St. David's, Pa.

He received a bachelor of arts degree from Williams College in 1935 and worked for two years as a reporter for the United Press.

From 1937 until 1942 Mr. Helms was national advertising manager of the Indianapolis Times. During the war he was commissioned in the Navy and assigned to the Office of Strategic Services, the predecessor of the CIA.

From 1946 until 1947, he worked in the strategic services unit of the War Department and the central intelligence group, joining the CIA when it was created in 1947.